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68TH CONGRESS }
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SENATE

{ REPORT
No. 1040

APPROPRIATIONS FOR HOWARD UNIVERSITY

FEBRUARY 3 (calendar day, FEBRUARY 7, 1925).—Ordered to be printed

Mr. HARRELD, from the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds,
submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany S. 2820]

The Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds, to which was referred the bill (S. 2820) authorizing appropriations for medical-school building and equipment for Howard University, having duly considered same, make report to the Senate with the recommendation that the bill do pass without amendment.

The Howard University is maintained and operated by the Federal Government under the Department of the Interior and is the only educational institution in the country (with the exception of a small school, the Meharry School, in the city of Nashville, Tenn.) maintaining a medical school for graduating colored physicians, dentists, and pharmacists. This institution, because of lack of room and equipment, can accommodate but comparatively few of the numerous applicants. The result is a dearth of colored physicians, dentists, and pharmacists throughout the country. The reason is not in the disinclination of colored young men to study medicine, but in the lack of medical schools maintained exclusively for their education as doctors and surgeons. Statistics show that there is a white physician to every 533 persons of the white race in the United States, while there is one colored physician to every 3,194 of the colored race. The disparity is even greater in the proportion of white and colored dentists. The bill carries \$370,000 for a medical-school building for Howard University and \$130,000 for equipment, a total of \$500,000.

While many of the white medical schools are open to students of the colored race, the records show that few attend and only about one dozen graduate from these institutions each year as physicians. This means that if the serious shortage of colored physicians and dentists is to be eliminated the Government must render aid and provide additional facilities.

The records show it to be indisputable that neither white nor colored race has sufficient professionally trained physicians to combat diseases and that the burden of providing medical attendance comes upon the white physician both for the 94,000,000 white persons as well as a large portion of the 12,000,000 colored people.

It is believed that if given the opportunity to obtain the necessary education the number of colored physicians and dentists would be greatly increased, so that every medical assistance could be given their own people.

